REMARKS

Claims 1 and 18 have been amended. Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter has been added. Thus, claims 1, 8, 9, 11, 13 - 18 and 21 are now pending in the present application. In view of the above amendments, it is respectfully submitted that all of the now pending claims are allowable.

Claims 1 and 18 have been amended to address the Examiner's concern regarding 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. It is respectfully submitted that all of the currently pending claims fully comply with § 112 and that these rejections should be withdrawn. Because claims 8, 9, 11, 13 - 17 and 21 depend from and, therefore, include the limitations of one of these independent claims, it is respectfully submitted that these claims are also allowable.

It is therefore respectfully submitted that all of the now pending claims are allowable. All issues raised by the Examiner having been addressed, an early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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